

rights and human rights leaders—Dr. Dorothy I. Height.

At ninety years of age, Dr. Height has had a long and distinguished career in the struggles for equality, social justice, and human rights for all peoples, and is today recognized as one of the most important social and civil rights activists of our time.

Born on March 24, 1912, Dorothy Height earned her bachelors and masters degrees from the New York University.

She began her work as a civil rights advocate in the 1930s, then went on to serve as President of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), an organization of 250 local groups and 38 national groups focused on social and economic development, women's issues and children's issues. Under her leadership the NCNW implemented numerous innovative initiatives including: Operation Woman Power to expand business ownership by women and to provide funds for vocational training; leadership training for African-American women in the rural South; the nationwide annual Black Family Reunion to encourage, renew, and celebrate African American and all families; the Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement to empower minority women in nontraditional careers; and the Bethune Museum and Archives devoted to the history of African-American women.

Quite notably, Dr. Height was the only female member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders, which included Whitney Young, A. Phillip Randolph, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., James Farmer, and Roy Wilkins. Dr. Height was an important confidante and consultant to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on human and civil rights issues. She encouraged President Eisenhower to desegregate America's schools, and urged President Johnson to appoint African American women to high-ranking government positions.

During her life she has also worked tirelessly to educate Americans and those around the world about the realities of AIDS and established NCNW offices in West Africa and South Africa.

Dr. Height is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including: the NAACP's Spingarn Award, the highest honor bestowed by the NAACP for civil rights contributions; (C) the John F. Kennedy Memorial Award, from the National Council of Jewish Women; the Ministerial Interfaith Association Award, for her contributions to interfaith, interracial, and ecumenical movements for over 30 years; the Lovejoy Award, the highest recognition by the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, for outstanding contributions to human relations; the Ladies Home Journal Woman of the Year Award, in recognition for her work for human rights; the William L. Dawson Award, presented by the Congressional Black Caucus for decades of public service to people of color and women; the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service, presented by President Reagan; the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom Medal, awarded by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute; and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded by President Clinton in 1994 for her lifelong leadership and dedication to civil and human rights issues.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height—a great American hero. Today we thank and honor her, as our lives are all the better for her struggles and her lifelong commitment and leadership in cre-

ating opportunities for Americans, and for all peoples.

FREE NÉSTOR RODRIGUEZ
LOBAINA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as I rise every week, to speak about the courageous prisoners of conscience in Castro's gulags. Previously, I have informed the Congress about the political prisoners Rafael Ibarra, Raúl Rivero, Juan Carlos Gonzalez Leyva, Jorge Luis Garcia Perez, Oscar Espinosa Chepe, Jose Luis Garcia Paneque, and Marta Beatriz Roque. Today I rise to speak of Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina.

Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina has been arrested and/or detained over 90 times since 1991, and is currently serving a six-year prison sentence for "disrespect to the figure of the Commander in Chief Fidel Castro" and "public disorder."

Why has Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina been savagely beaten while serving his sentence at the maximum security "Combinado de Guantánamo?" Why was Mr. Rodriguez Lobaina taken to Niva Mountain by Castro's police thugs and mock executed? Why is Mr. Rodriguez Lobaina considered a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International? The answer to all of these questions is simple: Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina is one of the founders and current President of the Cuban Youth for Democracy Movement.

The Cuban Youth for Democracy Movement is a nongovernmental organization that promotes democracy and human rights for the people of Cuba. These concepts are so antithetical to Castro's tyrannical regime that when Mr. Rodriguez Lobaina worked to promote the ideals of freedom and democracy he was locked away for six years in a maximum security gulag.

Mr. Speaker, think about that, for encouraging people to think about freedom, to think about democracy, Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina has been arrested or detained over 90 times and is currently serving a six-year sentence. Six Years! Mr. Speaker, Six Years! Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina is serving six years because he thinks the people of Cuba should be free.

My colleagues, we must all call for the release of Néstor Rodriguez Lobaina and all political prisoners in totalitarian Cuba.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SUZANNE INSOOK
AHN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I pay tribute to the memory of my dear friend and a remarkable woman from Dallas, Dr. Suzanne Insook Ahn. I would like to extend my greatest sympathy to her family by taking a moment to reflect on Dr. Ahn's rich life.

Dr. Suzanne Insook Ahn was born in Pusan, South Korea and raised in the United States. She was a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. Ahn trained at Parkland Hospital in Dallas and maintained a successful practice as a neurologist for thirteen years. She was the youngest person, and only the second woman, to serve on the Texas State Medical Board of Examiners in its 100-year history. Dr. Ahn was the co-inventor of 14 U.S. patents and founded the medical division of a start-up technology company.

A recognized civic leader and advocate of women's rights, she founded the Summit, a group of Dallas women in decision-making positions. Dr. Ahn was instrumental in organizing the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of the American Medical Women's Association.

Dr. Suzanne Ahn was a strong advocate for Asian Americans. She lectured across the country on civil rights and lobbied vigorously for the rights of Asian American workers at the Wards Cove cannery. Dr. Ahn led a march against Dallas nightclubs that illegally banned Asian Americans. In 2002 she led picketers at a bookstore in Plano that was denying service to Asian Americans. Dr. Ahn was a founder of the Asian American Forum that provides leadership training for Asian Americans in Dallas/Fort Worth.

In 1991, Dr. Ahn worked in the Texas Air Control Board to control air pollution. As she often pointed out, half of all those with lung cancer are non-smokers. Indeed, the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex is plagued by severely poor air quality that will continue to kill some of our best and brightest—such as Dr. Ahn.

Mr. Speaker, we must improve air quality in metropolitan areas across this Country or we will face disastrous consequences both in terms of our health and our economy. In Dr. Ahn's memory, I reaffirm my efforts to promote alternative transportation and cleaner power generation so that future generations will not grow up in a haze that will shorten their lives, happiness, and contributions to our society.

I join the residents of Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex in extending our condolences to her family. A physician, inventor, community leader, and civil rights activist, Dr. Ahn was a remarkable woman who will be deeply missed and never forgotten. She will be remembered for her enthusiasm, her vision, her dedication to equal rights and her many contributions to the State of Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR BALANCE
PRESCRIPTION DRUG ADVERTISEMENT ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act, a bill to ensure that Direct-To-Consumer (DTC) prescription drug ads provide complete and accurate information about prescription drugs.

The Medicare prescription drug bill passed by the Republicans in the House does nothing to control drug pricing. In fact, their bill explicitly prohibits Medicare from negotiating with